





Office of Selection Services & Office of Workforce Planning 1.888.232.4584 | careers@cdcr.ca.gov

Testing Options

COMMON TESTING & HIRING TERMS

DEPARTMENTAL EXAM

Limits competition to qualified competitors employed in a specific department.

MULTI-DEPARTMENTAL EXAM

Limits competition to those employed within a specific agency, such as; Department of Water Resources, State Water Resources Control Board, and the Air Resources Board or specific departments, such as the Franchise Tax Board and the Department of Finance.

OPEN EXAM

Utilized when examining for enty-level, specialized or technical classes and the qualified candidate group is outside of State service working in private industry. Career credits do not apply. Veterens Preference Credits are applied to the open list only if the exam is an entry-level exam (requiring less than a Bachelor's Degree and two years experience).

OPEN NON-PROMOTIONAL EXAM

Utilized when open competition of both State and private industry employees will produce eligible lists with more highly qualified candidates. Career credits are applied to the final score of State employees with permanent status. Veterans Preference Points do not apply.

OPEN & PROMOTIONAL EXAM

Utilized when there is an identified, qualified promotional group which is not of adequate size to meet the needs of the department. In this exam, two eligible lists are established (a promotional list and an open list). The promotional list must be used before the open list. Career credits do not apply. Veterens Preference Points are applied to the open list only if the exam is an entry-level exam (requiring less than a Bachelor's Degree and two years experience).

PROMOTIONAL EXAM

Utilized when a qualified candidate group of adequate size is within State service. Career Credits and Veterans Preference Points do not apply.

REGION/SPOT EXAM

Administered in a county or a specific geographic location such as Los Angeles County for the purpose of establishing an employment list to fill vacancies in that particular location. Spot exams can be administered either on an open or promotional basis.

SERVICEWIDE EXAM

Allows all qualified State employees to compete without regard to the department in which they work. This type of exam would be administered by the State Personnel Board (SPB).

STATEWIDE EXAM

Administered throughout the State in locations where examining facilities are available. This applies to open exams which have positions throughout the State, such as the Telecommunications Technician classification. In this instance, a Conditions of Employment From 631 is used to determine the location preference of the candidates.

SUBDIVISONAL EXAM

Limits competition to those employed in a specific division or organizational unit within a department that has its own appointing authority.